

Impaired Drivers Trust Fund

2004 Annual Report
October 1, 2003 - September 30, 2004

working today to create a better tomorrow for Alabamians
with traumatic brain and/or spinal cord injury

In 1992 the Alabama State Legislature established the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund in the state treasury and the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund Advisory Board (Act 92-586).

Since that time, the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund has evolved into a major advocacy and service-delivery system for Alabamians who have spinal cord injury or traumatic brain injury.

Dear Legislator,

It is our pleasure to present the 2004 Annual Report for Alabama's Impaired Driver Trust Fund (IDTF). Because of the services made possible through the IDTF, thousands of Alabamians who have acquired permanent disability from spinal cord injury or traumatic brain injury still have the promise of maintaining and improving their quality of life after injury. Through the IDTF's partner agencies and organizations, these individuals and their families are linked to the services and resources they need to adjust to their life-changing circumstances.

Developing a comprehensive continuum of care and providing the widest possible range of service options remain a priority for the IDTF and its participating members. It is the collaborative efforts of the IDTF agencies which sustains the program's success—and ensures that people served by IDTF receive optimal benefits. The continued success of this effort can be attributed in large part to the IDTF Advisory Board. This panel provides professional leadership not only to the state agencies involved in IDTF services, but to private and community-based organizations as well.

The success of this remarkable collaborative effort is outlined in this report. This report highlights the results of the dedication IDTF partners invest and stands as a symbol of their commitment to the individuals and families they serve. Please join us in expressing the deepest appreciation for the IDTF Board and its staff statewide who work together to improve the lives of Alabamians living with traumatic brain and/or spinal cord injury.

Steve Shivers, Commissioner
Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services

Ralph R. Norman III, Chairman
Alabama Impaired Drivers Trust Fund



IDTF Background

When the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund in the state treasury and the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund Advisory Board (Act 92-586) were established in 1992, the Alabama Legislature charged the IDTF Advisory Board with the responsibility of facilitating a comprehensive system of services for Alabamians with head and spinal cord injury. The mission of the advisory board was to:

- investigate the needs of survivors with SCI or TBI
- identify gaps in services to these survivors
- establish guidelines for disbursing IDTF monies
- assure maximum benefits from the IDTF

In 1993 the Legislature passed ACT 93-323 imposing an additional fine of \$100 on persons convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs with proceeds from the fines allocated to the Impaired Drivers Trust Fund. These proceeds are used as payer of last resort for the costs of care provided to Alabamians who have survived neurotrauma with head or spinal cord injury.

The Legislature also designated the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services as the agency to disperse monies from the IDTF in accordance with the priorities and criteria established by the board.

Thus, the advisory board, IDTF committees and the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services staff implemented systems and procedures to deliver services.

IDTF partners with the Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Registry and Service Linkage System

The Alabama Head and Spinal Cord Injury Registry (AHSCIR), established by Act 98-611, requires that all hospitals in Alabama report the names of individuals treated for traumatic brain injury or spinal cord injury to the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), thus allowing the ADPH to:

- learn more about brain injury and spinal cord injury
- develop programs aimed at preventing these disabling conditions
- make recommendations regarding improvement in current prevention and treatment methods

The AHSCIR allows the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS) to contact individuals whose names have been submitted to the registry about the availability of information and resources.

Development of the AHSCIR and Service Linkage System exemplifies how effective collaboration and coordination of resources among state agencies, private and public organizations and partners can improve the system of care in Alabama for people who have experienced head and/or spinal cord injury. The Impaired Drivers Trust Fund supports this process as a collaborative partner and with funding.

The Alabama Trauma Registry (ATR) database has received data on 38,896 cases that satisfy the criteria for admission to the ATR — 12,305 cases were classified as head, neck, and spinal cord injuries. The high concentration of individuals with TBI and/or SCI within the 15- to 24- year-old age group is expected and, more often than not, results in many years of lost productivity and increased cost of care.

The ADRS Service Linkage System: Linking people to resources and services

Often people with head and spinal cord injuries and their families cannot find solutions to the many difficulties they are experiencing. ADRS, in partnership with ADPH, has implemented the AHSCIR Service Linkage System to link survivors of TBI and SCI and their families to much-needed community-based services. The system facilitates this process as soon as possible after individuals leave the hospital.

Survivors who sustain moderate and severe head or spinal cord injuries are contacted by mail and given information about the Service Linkage System. They may call a toll-free number and speak with the service system coordinator who can provide assistance in accessing a variety of services and information. Individuals are linked to resources based on their specific needs. The service system coordinator is also available to provide TBI- and SCI-related information and resources to professionals and service providers.

Service Linkage System
Toll-Free Number:
1-888-879-4706

Service Components

Through funds provided by the IDTF, specific programs were created and implemented in order to address the needs of people with TBI and SCI. These programs resulted in the following services:

<p><u>Helpline</u></p> <p>The Alabama Head Injury Foundation's toll-free Helpline, 1-800-433-8002, provided immediate information to 726 callers. provided immediate information to 787 callers.</p>	<p>Callers ----- 726 Information requests -- 1,329 Referrals ----- 761</p>
<p><u>Resource Coordination</u></p> <p>This service coordination program helped 995 consumers and their families find and implement the coordinated, community-based assistance they needed.</p>	<p>Consumers/families served: 995 TBI ----- 666 SCI ----- 290 TBI/SCI -----38</p>
<p><u>Interactive Community-Based Model (ICBM)</u></p> <p>One hundred and ninety three (193) consumers transitioned from the hospital to home and to the community through the efforts of this five-phased rehabilitation program.</p>	<p>193 Transitioned from the hospital to the community</p>
<p><u>State of Alabama Independent Living (SAIL) Service</u></p> <p>SAIL Service provided personal assistance and support services to 328 consumers and their families enabling them to maintain as independent a lifestyle as possible.</p>	<p>Consumers served: 328 Birmingham -----62 Dothan -----33 Montgomery -----60 Decatur -----31 Anniston -----79 Mobile -----52 Tuscaloosa -----38</p>
<p><u>Extended Support</u></p> <p>Through job-related support services, 17 consumers were given needed assistance to help them maintain their jobs.</p>	<p>17 Received job-support assistance</p>
<p><u>Respite Care</u></p> <p>Services were provided to 66 families, relieving them of round-the-clock responsibilities of caring for a consumer.</p>	<p>Families served: 66 TBI -----46 SCI -----16 TBI/SCI ----- 4</p>
<p><u>Housing Assistance</u></p> <p>This program helped 9 consumers in processing applications for housing assistance and in implementing approved accessibility modification or structural repairs to their homes.</p>	<p>Consumers served: 9 TBI ----- 3 SCI ----- 5 TBI/SCI ----- 1</p>
<p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>Opportunities to enjoy recreation through attending camp were provided to 99 persons with TBI or SCI and volunteers.</p>	<p>Camp: 99 Spring session -----25 Summer session -----26 Camp Cool -----48</p>

STATE OF ALABAMA
IMPAIRED DRIVERS TRUST FUND

- serving people with brain or spinal cord injury -

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